

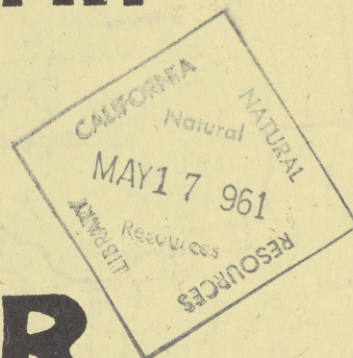
*State of*  
*California*

DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES

DIVISION OF FORESTRY

# NEWS LETTER

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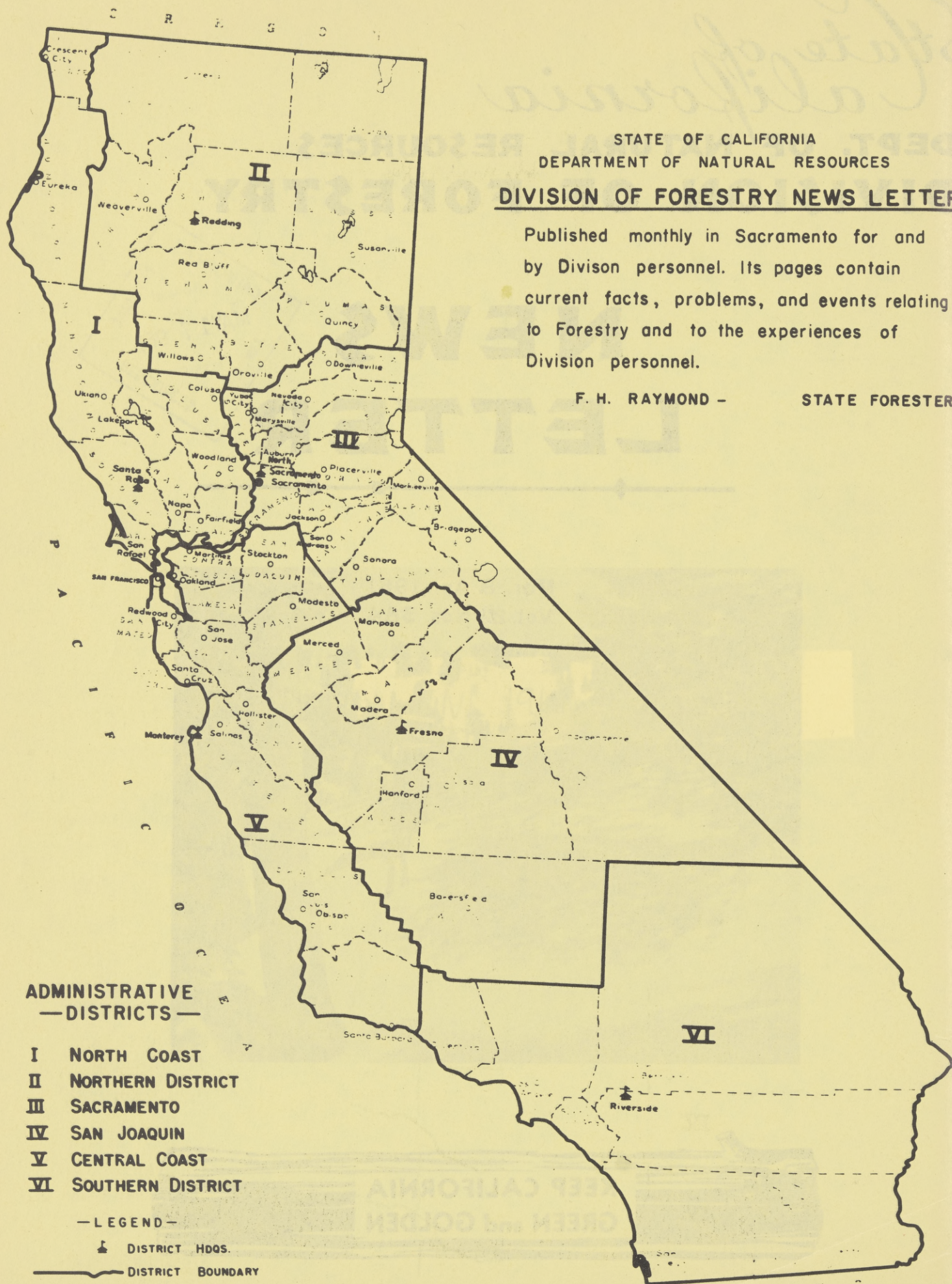




STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
**DIVISION OF FORESTRY NEWS LETTER**

Published monthly in Sacramento for and by Division personnel. Its pages contain current facts, problems, and events relating to Forestry and to the experiences of Division personnel.

F. H. RAYMOND - STATE FORESTER



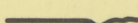
**ADMINISTRATIVE  
— DISTRICTS —**

- I** NORTH COAST
- II** NORTHERN DISTRICT
- III** SACRAMENTO
- IV** SAN JOAQUIN
- V** CENTRAL COAST
- VI** SOUTHERN DISTRICT

**— LEGEND —**



DISTRICT HDQS.



DISTRICT BOUNDARY



## COVER PHOTO

Gunnar Forssbeck making a cross-country run in the High Sierra.

Gunnar's familiarity with the snow-covered slopes of the Sierra started in 1931 when he earned his living as a line repairman for the Pacific Gas and Electric Company. During this period, his early training in snow survival north of the Arctic Circle with the Swedish Ski Troops made his almost impossible job of keeping the telephone lines repaired during heavy snowstorms little more than routine.

Almost from the time of his birth on August 16, 1909, in Filipstad, Sweden, Gunnar has been a real outdoorsman. His hobbies are hunting, fishing, and skiing. Until he joined forces with the Division of Forestry shortly after World War II both his hobbies and his occupation kept him in the open during most of the daylight hours and sometimes longer.

In recalling his early experiences on this continent after immigrating from Sweden in 1930, Gunnar said, "We worked for a dollar a day and slept sixty men to a bunkhouse. We worked six days a week, left for work in the woods before daylight and didn't come back until well after dark."

This seemed incentive enough for immigrant Forssbeck to continue his migration westward and southward till he landed a job with the Michigan-California Lumber Company of Camino in El Dorado County. This job lasted fourteen years. Primary duties as engineer for Michigan-California were layout and maintenance of logging railroads and later truck logging roads.

When the United States entered World War II, Gunnar's talents were much in demand by the Mountain Division of the Armed Forces. It wasn't long before his Swedish Ski Troop experience landed him in Ski Troops of the United States Forces.

Gunnar's present position as an "office engineer" in Division of Forestry Sacramento Headquarters is a definite change from his outside activities of earlier years, and as Gunnar puts it, "I might spend five days a week, mostly inside, working with maps, rights-of-way, easements, and other desk jobs, but I still hunt, fish, and ski on week-ends and vacations."

One of the highlights of Gunnar's active and interesting life came last year during the Winter Olympics at Squaw Valley. His expertness on skis; familiarity with the country along with his ability to speak a foreign language, made him a natural as one of the officials on the cross-country ski trials. For his contribution to the success of the Games, the Olympic Commission awarded him a plaque which is prominently displayed in the Forssbeck home in Sacramento.

When asked about his plans for the future Gunnar said, "Who knows. I hope to stay with the Division for a long time yet. And I hope to spend a lot of time in the Sierra. In the summer and fall I'll hunt and fish. In the winter and spring, if there is enough snow, I'll ski. But I won't spend much time near the ski lifts. To enjoy the real beauty of the country and get the most satisfaction from the sport I think cross-country skiing is the answer."



## FEBRUARY ACTIVITIES

**FIRE SUPPRESSION:** A combination of fire activity (about 3,000 acres burned) and bad weather (extreme drought, strong northeasterly winds plus many days of unseasonably high temperatures) made it necessary for the State Forester to officially declare a fire season to exist in Southern California on February 24, 1961.

In the area north of the Tehachapi Mountains, precipitation was near normal for the month of February. This, of course, alleviated the dry conditions that prevailed during January. Acreage burned was normal for this month in contrast to the abnormal acreage burned during January.

## FOREST FIRE RESEARCH

Burning tests in grass and brush plots in San Diego County last October and in the Experiment Station's fire laboratory at Richmond in December showed that algin gel has considerable promise as a good fire retardant. The potential of using the gel appeared to be particularly good when dropped from air tankers. There were at least three questions concerning the gel which the California Air Attack Coordinating Committee felt could be answered during the winter period: (1) What is the maximum viscosity of the gel that can be dropped from air tankers and still produce a desirable pattern on the ground? (2) Will this particular viscosity of gel, once determined, coat forest fuels satisfactorily? and, (3) Will the gel permit air tankers to drop from higher altitudes and at faster speeds and still produce good drop patterns?

Cooperative tests were conducted by Calairco at the Ramona Airport on February 2. Most of the cost of these tests were borne by the Kelco Company of San Diego, producers of algin. These tests showed that a viscosity of the gel of 3500 to 5000 centipoises was the highest viscosity of gel which would produce a good drop pattern. This gel also was excellent in its ability to coat forest fuels in the vicinity of the Ramona Airport including sumac, oak, manzanita, pine, and other species. Ground patterns with this viscosity of gel were very similar whether dropped from 175 feet or 50 feet in altitude. The speed of the TBM air tanker was maintained at about 130 knots, somewhat higher than the drop speed normally used in the past. Thus it appears that the gel could permit air tankers to fly more safely when making drops of this material.

Demonstrations were held at the Davis warehouse late in February to show the Division's new batch mixer and also an algin gel firetruck which had been converted from the Division's Flinn Springs Type No. 1 firetruck with the help of the Kelco Company. As a result of the plans made at this meeting, batch retardant mixers will probably be constructed in the near future and be located during the coming fire season at most of the Division's major air tanker bases. Algin fire retardant trucks were tentatively planned for location at Garberville in Humboldt County, Clearlake Oaks in Lake County, El Dorado in El Dorado County, Sterling City in Butte County, Cathay in Mariposa County, Paso Robles in San Luis Obispo County, Beaumont and Corona in Riverside County, and two trucks at Flinn Springs in San Diego County. In addition, a CMC (sodium - carboxymethylcellulose known as CMC on the market) retardant truck is tentatively planned for Morgan Hill in Santa Clara County. The uses of these trucks and their retardants in 1961 will permit a broader evaluation of this new fire tool on forest fires. As in 1960, the U. S. Forest Service and the Los Angeles County Fire Department will also be cooperating in this project in California under the general



coordination of the Pacific Southwest Forest and Range Experiment Station. It is probable that many other fire retardant trucks will be operating on an experimental basis elsewhere throughout the Western States during the 1961 fire season.

Two publications were completed and distributed in February. Fire Control Experiment Number 1, "Put Out That Fire With Seaweed", describes tests of algin-thickened water, algin gel and diammonium phosphate in algin water in 1960. Fire Control Experiment Number 2, "Testing CMC-Thickened Water As a Fire Retardant", describes 1960 tests of the CMC-thickened water fire retardant.

#### AGRICULTURAL FIRE PROTECTION

Representatives from the Fiscal and Fire Control Sections of the State Forester's Office and a representative from the Department of Finance, met with Deputy Mace and his four Ranger Unit Managers plus numerous other staff personnel, for three days in San Bernardino. The purpose of this meeting was to review the present Schedule A Agreement Form and to thoroughly review the whole Schedule A and Schedule C program.

The Division participated in a meeting in Mariposa where some 50 voters and property owners gathered to discuss matters pertaining to fire protection districts.

#### WATERSHED MANAGEMENT - PUBLIC LAW 566

A representative of this office met with representatives of the Forest Service and the Soil Conservation Service to review the preliminary rough draft of the San Gabriel River-Western Area Public Law 566 project; assisted District VI in the preparation of cost sharing arrangements (Tables 1 and 1-a), Escondido Creek Watershed Work Plan; met with Mr. Bob Whiting of the Department of Water Resources relative to coordination on Davis-Grunsky projects; installed the newly elected officers of the Capitol Section of the Soil Conservation Society of America; discussed the Klamath River Basin investigation and the proposed Cottonwood Willow Public Law 566 project with District I personnel and presented the Division of Forestry's interest and participation to the Western Yolo Soil Conservation/District Directors, who are sponsoring the Cottonwood Willow Public Law 566 Project.

#### FEDERAL-STATE COOPERATION

The Coordinator met with the Public Law 566 representative and the District I Fire Control Ranger in Santa Rosa to discuss possible impacts on private lands inside National Forests as a result of existing and proposed watershed projects.

Met with fire control representatives of the U. S. Forest Service Regional Office to discuss the "Green Book" and personnel reporting procedures for State Coop. crews. Also met with Rupe Asplund, State and Private representative from the Regional Office to discuss and review boundary adjustment problems.

#### FIRE PREVENTION

First treatment scripts for the production of forest fire prevention motion picture television spots and motion picture theater trailers in 1961 were prepared, including production specifications.

Conferences were held with Southern Pacific Company and management of



other railroads to develop plans for the cooperative fire prevention programs involving railroads. Top management gave assurance that their program, which has proven effective during the past several years, will be continued.

Themes for use in the production of 4' x 8' fire prevention roadside signs were developed and submitted to the artist for further development.

Campaign materials for the 1961 fire prevention program were delivered to all Districts and in turn to the Ranger Units. Pre-season reports from field personnel indicate an unusual interest in assisting the program by cooperators. This is resulting from increased activity by field personnel in developing planned programs with industry, business, and others who have outlets and media available for use in this educational program.

#### FOREST PRACTICES

The Forest Practice Committee for the Coast Range Pine and Fir District conducted the final public hearing with regard to amendment of the rules in Weaverville on February 7. The recommendations of the Committee for amendment of the rules will be submitted to the Board of Forestry in April.

The Board of Forestry in Sacramento on February 23, approved an alternate plan submitted by Vulcan Logging Company for some 8,440 acres of timberland owned or controlled by Arrow Mill Company in the southern part of Del Norte County. Under the alternate plan Vulcan Logging Company is to artificially regenerate logged areas to Douglas fir by aerial seeding or planting to secure the required minimum stocking in lieu of leaving seed trees as provided for under the Redwood Forest Practice Rules.

#### NURSERY

Although the tree planting season will not end for another five or six weeks, nearly the entire supply of seedling stock from the Division's four forest nurseries has been exhausted and a large number of requests have been turned back. Trees shipped or on order so far this season amount to 2,963,000. In view of the apparent increased demand, preliminary sowing schedules for the four nurseries for this spring have been planned to produce approximately 6,200,000 seedlings. An additional acre has been cleared and leveled at the Ben Lomond nursery in Santa Cruz County to absorb some of this planned increased production.

Considerable concern in forest nursery diseases was expressed by members of the California Forest Pest Control Action Council at its November, 1960, meeting in Sacramento. In research carried out by pathologists of the Pacific Southwest Forest and Range Experiment Station, it was found that rather heavy populations of soil fungi were causing losses of trees in nursery seed beds. Also, many apparently healthy seedlings were being shipped out for planting that were infected with several species of harmful soil borne fungi. After planting, these fungi could cause mortality among the infected seedlings as well as spread to other trees. It was thus felt that a one-day training session for Forest Service and Division personnel engaged in forest nursery and reforestation work in recognizing root diseases and methods of control, would assist in establishing forest plantations. A session was arranged by Pacific Southwest Forest and Range Experiment Station personnel, and was held at the Station in Berkeley on February 28, 1961. Pathologists of the Station and the University of California and a member of the Regional Forester's staff from the Forest Service Office in San Francisco acted as instructors. Approximately 40 forest



nursery and reforestation specialists were in attendance.

#### RANGE IMPROVEMENT

Requests were received from two magazines (Fortune and Canadian Pulp and Paper Industry) for information and pictures of the DAL Tool. These requests resulted from an article in the February issue of the American Tree Farmer. The DAL Tool was developed by a Division range specialist and published as Range Improvement Studies No. 5.

#### EMERGENCY REVEGETATION

A survey was made of the areas reseeded under the Emergency Revegetation Program on the Homestake Mine Burn. Considerable erosion was observed resulting from the moderately heavy rains during January. The survey showed that density of the seeded plants is less than 5 per cent or about five seedlings per square foot. This is about average for late fall seeding in this area.

#### PUBLIC RELATIONS

Governor Brown was the key-note speaker at the Sierra-Cascade Logging Conference held in Sacramento on February 16-18. A session on fire protection was headed by Senator Regan and participated in by State Forester F. H. Raymond and other representatives from public and private agencies. Deputy State Forester T. F. Arvola discussed the public benefits of an expanded woodpulp industry in California in another session.

#### ENGINEERING

The Minor Capital Outlay Budgets are now being received from the field for the 1962-63 Fiscal Year and District II representatives were in on the 14th and reviewed their entire submission with Engineering in order to clarify their request prior to review by the State Forester's staff.

A staff review was held on Tuesday, February 7 on the Major Capital Outlay Budget projects submitted by the field for the 1962-63 budget. It would appear at this time that the Major Capital Outlay Budget will be slightly in excess of 4.6 million dollars. This figure includes both construction and site acquisition.

The possibility of extending the use of the Agreement for obtaining permission from the U. S. Forest Service to construct water cisterns and roads over Forest Service lands was explored.

We have been advised by the Division of Acquisition that the State now has title to the Dobbins Forest Fire Station addition.

During the period of February 7-9 upon request of the U. S. Forest Service we developed a program whereby we could utilize 2,000 unemployed people performing various types of conservation work. This was roughly calculated on the basis of 66 men being assigned to each Ranger Unit.

On February 10 a staff meeting was held to discuss our training policies and staffing for the Susanville Conservation Center. A meeting will be held shortly with the Department of Corrections to discuss these matters.



On February 14, Mr. Raymond and Mr. Peterson appeared before the Wildlife Conservation Board in support of a stream clearance project in the vicinity of the new Alder Conservation Camp.

Wm. Jacobson was in District VI during the week of February 13, to attend a meeting at the new Don Lugo Camp. He inspected the proposed camp at Broom Flat in San Bernardino Mountains and the progress of the development of decals for the helmets.

Electrical wiring for Smith Creek Forest Fire Station and Pacheco Forest Fire Station water systems were completed.

The addition to the Garden Valley Forest Fire Station water system was completed.

On February 20 Mr. Moran and Mr. Petersen spent an afternoon listening to Mr. Albert Crittenden explaining his problem in respect to the proposed new Sea View Conservation Camp in Sonoma County.

Gunnar Forssbeck, George Dyer, and Jerry Reinecker presented a one-day training session to the engineering personnel of District VI. Primary emphasis was on the preparation of A-7 and A-19 right-of-way documents with a portion of the time expended on title report examination and land acquisition. Engineer Forssbeck spent the 21st in consultation with Neil Rice of District VI on the preparation and processing of rights-of-way.

#### MARCH ACTIVITIES:

FIRE SUPPRESSION: To a great extent, the weather; i.e., storm systems, northerly winds, and warm days was about normal for the month of March. Generally, precipitation and the snow pack is about normal for the northern one-third of the State and below normal for the southern two-thirds.

On lands that are the Division's primary responsibility (Zone I and II) there were 29 forest fires that burned 35 acres, and 98 non-forest fires that caused \$362,463.00 damage to structures, vehicles, improvements, etc. For comparison purposes the average number of forest fires is 36, acreage burned 410, non-forest fires 66, and non-forest damage \$184,040.00.

#### FEDERA-STATE COOPERATION

The Federal-State coordinator attended the U. S. Forest Service, California Region, Dispatchers' Workshop at the Los Prietos Training Center on March 9th and 10th to discuss the reporting procedures pertaining to State Coop. crews on the National Forests.

A meeting was held in the Fire Control office with representatives of the U. S. Forest Service and the California Disaster Office to discuss plans for joint action in developing and effecting a fire-line qualification rating system and minimum training standards for lumber industry crews and to develop more adequate radio communications between all the fire-fighting agencies, the California Disaster Office, and the lumber industry.

#### STATE-COUNTY COOPERATION (Agricultural Fire Protection)

A final acceptance test was run by the Pacific Fire Rating Bureau on a new



fire truck built by P. E. Van Pelt Company of Oakdale for the County of Tehama. This truck is being purchased by the County of Tehama for use by the Division of Forestry in the County responsibility area.

A representative of the State Forester's Office met with the Pacific Fire Rating Bureau to discuss matters pertaining to some changes in rating schedules and to pick up some copies of the N.F.B. U. Fire Prevention Code.

#### FOREST FIRE RESEARCH

The February Activity Report for Forest Fire Research included a list of the Division's fire trucks which will be converted for the use of algin-thickened water during the 1961 fire season. Most of these trucks have now been converted and the crews are being trained in the use of the fire retardant. Limited use of the material in 1960 gave considerable promise, particularly in fire suppression work.

Sacramento staff personnel attended two demonstrations during March. Amchen Corporation, manufacturers of Weedone and other chemical sprays, demonstrated the application of invert emulsion sprays on brush from helicopters. The invert emulsion is especially applicable where it is desirable not to have dispersion of fine spray particles over a wide area. The material is quite useful along narrow rights-of-way where the width of the spray pattern must be limited so as not to kill brush or other vegetation beyond the boundaries of the right-of-way.

The Los Angeles Fire Department demonstrated the use of algin gel in suppressing structural fires. The gel was compared against plain water. It came through with flying colors, suppressing a fire after the failure of plain water which was applied through the same size hose and a similar pump.

The Weather Control Research Association, of which the Division is a member, met in Sacramento in March. A highlight of the meeting was an explanation and demonstration of the U. S. Weather Bureau's weather radar. A strong cold front had passed over Sacramento during the 24 hours previous to the meeting. This storm had been recorded on a series of black and white Polaroid slides taken from the scope of the radar. Each slide included one hour of exposure and plainly showed each individual rain cell and its progress through Central California during the hour's time. It is hoped that this technique will permit the accurate detection of both the location and movement of thundercloud cells during the coming fire season. This technique was studied to a certain extent during the 1960 fire season and refinements should permit even greater success during 1961.

Division personnel conducted a one-day training session at Sonora in the use of air tankers and fire retardants. National Park Service rangers and other administrative personnel were in attendance from most of the western regions of the United States.

Two Fire Control Experiment publications were completed in March and are currently being printed. Fire Control Experiment No. 3, "Attempts to Reduce Lightning Fire Occurrence in Northeastern California, 1957-1959", describes the efforts of the Division to modify thunderclouds with the use of ground generators. The report notes that these studies have been unsuccessful to date in significantly changing the electrical or physical properties of thunderclouds. There has been no significant reduction either in the occurrence of lightning fires or in the amount of precipitation coming from the clouds.



Fire Control Experiment, No. 4, "Progress in Certain Forest Fire Research Projects in California, 1957-1960", gives a brief review of the Division's activities in the fuel break, lightning prevention, fire climate, fire economics, air tanker, helicopter, fire retardant, and equipment development projects. The report also summarizes all the publications that have been written to date by fire control and research agencies in California on the above projects.

#### FIRE PLANNING

Division and University of California personnel met to review progress on the Fire Control Economic Study under contract with University of California. As yet, no guidelines have been found to measure the effect of varying intensity of protection to a given wildland area. Investigations will continue, however, to establish factors that may show significant correlation. Our portions of the activity during the coming year will include a study of the fuel hazard of the Central Sierra and the costs of converting large areas to less hazardous types.

#### AIR PROGRAM

An "Air Plan" has been completed and distributed to administrative units. This document, a supplement to the Fire Plan, reflects the Division's requirements for all types of aircraft and support ground facilities. Plots are included of primary airfields and secondary reloading bases showing location of taxi-ways, mixing, loading, and storage areas, manpower and equipment needed to support the air operations are also included.

#### AUTOMOTIVE

Conversion of 1½" fire hose threads from Parallel Iron Pipe Threads (PIPT) to National Standard Threads (NST) is proceeding well ahead of schedule. The fourth of six Districts is nearing completion. Plans are being made to convert a portion of a fifth District before fire season.

A number of fire pump test hits were assembled at the Davis Equipment Shop. Performance curves have been established for the pumps commonly in use by the Division. Field checks are now underway prior to placing the system into operational uses.

Frequent inspections were made of firetruck bodies under construction by contract vendors.

#### FIRE STATISTICS

On March 14th the Division's Statistician presented an all-day training session at Monterey on the subject of statistics. Those in attendance included the Rangers, Associate Rangers and Assistant Ranger-Dispatchers of the Central Coast District, plus members of the District staff. The purpose of the presentation were to familiarize the Ranger Unit Administrators with the types of data that are available in the Fire Control Office and to explain some of the practical applications of statistical analysis.

#### FIRE WEATHER AND BURNING INDEX

The 1960 Fire Weather and Burning Index records were checked and corrected, with respect to I.B.M. punch card system coding mistakes, at the Folsom Conservation Camp. All 1960 records are now in the hands of the Pacific Southwest Forest and Range Experiment Station and are being entered on punch cards.



Due to technical and time problems, the electronic computer processing of 1958, 1959, and 1960 weather records have been delayed. Previously, it had been planned to do this work on a UNIVAC 1180 computer. Now arrangements are being made, through the efforts of the Experiment Station, to perform the work on the University of California's I.B.M. 704 machine. The Station now has a "programmer" working for them who is currently developing the machine routines. It is hoped that actual machine runs can begin in about a month.

Two 8-hour weather training sessions were put on in Mendocino County. The subject material covered Fire Danger Rating and Fire Weather observations. These sessions were prepared specifically for the weather observers and index computers at the field level.

A meeting was held at the Experiment Station to discuss possible applications of the Danger Indexes to burning permit controls.

Work has continued with the Experiment Station people on the Fire Danger Rating Manual revision. It is proposed that a comprehensive handbook, consisting of four major parts, will be prepared which will gather all instructions, reference cards, index computing and other tables, lists and other associated material under one set of covers. It is intended that the handbook will cover the field of Fire Weather instructions, as well as the Fire Danger Rating System.

#### WATERSHED MANAGEMENT - PUBLIC LAW 566

The Sacramento Office assisted the Southern California District in the development of the forestry phases of the Escondido Creek and San Gabriel River, Western Area, Watershed Work Plans; and coordinated this Division's activities with that of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Bureau of Land Management, U. S. Forest Service, U. S. Soil Conservation Service, and State Division of Soil Conservation on these work plans.

Assistance was also given the Southern California District and the Los Angeles County Fire Department in the development of information for the forestry reconnaissance report on the Avenue H project near Lancaster. The Division of Forestry was represented at the March meeting of the State Soil Conservation Commission and the Redlands-Highlands Soil Conservation District meeting in Redlands. The latter meeting was held to determine action needed to initiate a reconnaissance investigation relative to a possible Public Law 566 project near Big Bear Lake, tentatively named Filirea.

#### FIRE PREVENTION

Division personnel met with representatives from Washington, D.C. of Cooperative Forest Fire Prevention, and the Advertising Council where proposals for the 1962 Smokey Bear Campaign were presented for consideration by Foote Cone and Belding Advertising Agency.

A Service Agreement was prepared and submitted for approval for the production of motion picture spots for television use and trailers for motion picture theaters. The shooting scripts are now being developed.

An initial two-day meeting and a subsequent two-day meeting of the Fire Prevention Planning Task Force Committee were held in Sacramento, which resulted in considerable progress toward the preparation of a State-wide forest fire prevention plan.



A two-day conference on the Division of Forestry - U. S. Forest Service cooperative fire prevention research program was held. Progress on the 1960-61 contract and plans for the 1961-62 projects were the subjects under discussion.

Preliminary art work for forest fire prevention 4' x 8' roadside sign posters was prepared by the artist and determination for theme for 1961 selected.

#### BUDGET

The Division's 1961-62 budget has been heard by the Assembly Ways and Means Subcommittee and also by the Senate Finance Subcommittee.

The following salary savings have been recorded: budget salary savings for the 1960-61 Fiscal Year for regular personnel, \$87,680; salary savings made to January 31, \$148,050; budgeted salary savings for fire control personnel, \$163,186; salary savings made to January 31, \$21,196.

#### AGREEMENTS

The Division completed an Interagency agreement with the Department of Corrections to perform certain work at Big Basin State Park. California Youth Authority crews will demolish several buildings and Forestry will then salvage all useable materials as payment for the work performed.

The Division entered into an agreement with the Southern Pacific Railroad for right-of-way on railroad land in Trinity County.

The American Rubber Company was low bidder on bids opened on March 15 for fire hose couplings.

The Soil Vegetation agreement with University of California and the tri-partite extension agreement has been completed and sent to Dr. Paul Sharp for signature.

#### PERSONNEL

Training was given Forestry supervisors (both in Sacramento and Districts) on the new procedures for the Performance Appraisal System and Merit Salary Adjustment Program.

The Divisional Personnel Officer worked with the Departmental Personnel Officer in developing case studies in disciplinary action procedure and made plans for presentation of the new grievance procedure program.

#### OTHER

The Organizational Inventory and Plan was released in final form to all Division Deputies on March 15. Distribution will be made shortly to outside of Division users.

A letter of instructions and rates necessary when negotiating county cooperative Schedule "A" contracts has been completed and released to the Districts.

Members of the State Forester's staff met with representatives of the Bureau of Land Management to discuss the current fire protection contract covering



Bureau of Land Management lands within the State. Bureau of Land Management staff are in the process of studying our protection contract and hope to have status maps showing the location of Bureau lands by district before June 30, 1961. They also hope to make some progress in classifying the lands as to the degree of protection warranted. It is anticipated the Bureau's study will be completed in time to allow for a new contract to be negotiated for Fiscal Year 1962-63; such new contract will in all probability include new acreage figures, as well as new rates of pay for protection.

#### FOREST PRACTICE

The Redwood Forest Practice Committee visited the Arcata Redwood Company operations near Orick on March 30 to appraise the results and progress being made by the company in artificial regeneration of timberlands under an alternate plan in lieu of leaving seed trees as required by the Redwood rules. The Committee met in Eureka later in the day to discuss additional alternate plans for that District which are under consideration and to conduct other business.

#### STATE FORESTS

"A Test of Variable Plot Cruising in Young Growth Redwood" by Forest Technician Robert J. Malain, Assistant Forest Manager of the Jackson State Forest was published as State Forest Note Number 7. This note reports the results of experimental variable plot cruising with a Spiegel-Relaskop in dense young growth stands of Coast redwood and Douglas fir. It was found that a variable plot cruise using a basal area factor of 40 was more efficient than fixed plots or the other basal area factors tested. Accurate determination of border line trees was found to be very important in the variable plot method. This experiment was performed as a part of the studies of young growth redwood timber management in the Caspar Creek Experimental area on the Jackson State Forest in Mendocino County. These experiments have aroused much interest throughout the redwood region.

#### SERVICE FORESTRY

A training session for service foresters and their supervisors was held in the Nevada-Yuba Ranger Unit headquarters in Nevada City on March 21 and 22. Service foresters are the professional foresters employed by the Division to aid owners of small woodland tracts improve management of their properties. Subjects discussed at the meeting included: coordination of planting stock production and distribution with field plantings by timberland owners; purposes and programs of the State Division of Soil Conservation; project records and reports for service foresters; problems and practices of the Agricultural Conservation Program. Speakers at the meeting included Sven Anderson, Assistant Chief of the Division of Soil Conservation, Lee Seidell, State Administrator for Agricultural Conservation Program Service, Don Lewis, State and Private Forestry, U. S. Forest Service, as well as Division of Forestry specialists. All concerned with the meeting agreed that a very useful exchange of information and ideas took place.

#### NURSERY

Requests for planting stock for spring planting from the Division's four forest nurseries continue to be received at the Davis headquarters nursery. Stock shipped or on order this season now amounts to 3,224,000 trees. This nearly exhausts the supply of one and two-year old seedlings, which will leave little two-year stock for the next season. A twenty-man inmate crew from the Iron Mine Conservation Camp worked for two weeks at the Davis headquarters nursery potting 55,000 seedlings in small tar paper pots. The seedlings are of species suitable for erosion control and



farm windbreaks in the valleys and foothills and will be sold during the 1961-62 season.

Arrangements were made with the University of California to conduct nutrient tests of soil samples from the Magalia Nursery in Butte County. Results for these tests will make it possible to efficiently utilize fertilizers.

#### REFORESTATION

The Advisory Committee to the State Forester on Reforestation Methods and Procedures met in Sacramento March 16 and 17. It reviewed the progress of reforestation studies being conducted by the Division and the Pacific Southwest Forest and Range Experiment Station. Members of the Committee reviewed the objectives of the Committee as set forth in Public Resources Code, Sections 4361-4365, and discussed means of better assisting the State Forester in expanding needed reforestation studies, of obtaining wider distribution to landowners of known successful techniques of reforestation, and of increasing the interest among landowners to carry on coordinated reforestation studies. One suggestion was that the State Forester encourage the Pacific Southwest Forest and Range Experiment Station in cooperation with the University of California School of Forestry to publish an easy-to-follow design to standardize reforestation studies so that they can be readily statistically analyzed. It was further recommended that certain studies should be emphasized as facilities and workloads permit. These are listed in order of priority:

1. Methods of improving seedling survival, including evaluation of quality of nursery stock on various sites.
2. Site preparation-brush control by mechanical, chemical, and burning methods.
3. Direct seeding techniques with emphasis on basic research to investigate systemic chemicals that can be applied to the seed to repel rodents and insects and will carry over into the seedling to protect it.
4. Animal damage to reproduction, and methods of controlling such damage.
5. Brush control where established natural seedlings are being suppressed.

The Committee in further actions voted to recommend to the State Forester that a letter be prepared and sent to the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service requesting an intensification of its investigations in systemics now being conducted at the Service's laboratory in Denver.

Planting and seeding was completed on the Gualala Reforestation Studies Project in Sonoma County. This is a cooperative study between the Division and a timber holding partnership on land owned by partners. The studies consist of testing Douglas fir and Monterey pine planting stock of one and two-year old seedlings receiving treatments with root hormones, three fertilizers inserted with the tree roots, and deer and rabbit repellents. Both broadcast and seed spot plots were established also. Planting and seeding of a second cooperative reforestation studies project was completed in Amador County. This was on land of a timber operating corporation and is designed to test planting and seeding of ponderosa pine in the fall and spring in plots of dense bear clover which had been sprayed with herbicides. On the Jackson State Forest in Mendocino County, grafting techniques were tested in a continuing study leading to the establishment of a Douglas fir seed orchard.



## PEST CONTROL

The Western Forest Insect Work Conference composed of research scientists, field entomologists, and administrators concerned with the control of forest insect epidemics, held its annual meeting in Berkeley, California, March 1-3, 1961. There was representation from all the western states and three provinces in Canada. Division personnel were also in attendance. The program was concerned with evaluation of insect damage. The problems were how bark beetles and defoliators affect and kill trees, insect damage to fire-injured and fire-killed trees and the ecological effects of insect attacks in forest stands. A portion of the program was devoted to new techniques, methods and gadgets. The Division presented a new insect poster which was recently developed for use around summer home sites. This conference allows those in attendance to become informed about new research before publication. It may be many months before this information is published.

State expenditures in 1960 for blister rust control on state and private lands amounted to \$89,626. The control was performed on 1,472 acres of State land and 10,021 acres of private land. Conservation Camp crews from the Mountain Home Conservation Camp in Tulare County covered 335 acres by hand eradication and 28 acres by foliage application of a chemical herbicide. The State finances 50 per cent of the costs on private land the remainder coming from the private landowners and federal government. The control projects are contracted to the U. S. Forest Service who are doing control work on intermingled federal lands.

Although there are three million acres of sugar pine type in California, only 11,526 acres of State land, 207,723 acres of private land, and 267,494 acres of National Forest land are within zones of infection. The lack of heavy sugar pine stocking and the economics of blister rust control preclude protection to the entire area.

During 1960 a revision in control work was made by the U. S. Forest Service and the State. Ribes eradication south of the Merced River will be deferred until such time as the presence of blister rust requires action and the standards of control in the area from El Dorado County to the Merced River will be reappraised. The new standards should substantially lower the level of control effort. This revision was based upon the considerations that studies indicate blister rust will not be a major pest in the southern Sierra Nevada and a supplementary method of control permitting the saving of infected trees through the application of antibiotics.

Division personnel participated in a meeting of the Rabies and Predator Advisory Committee established by the legislature. Problems of rodents and other animals as they relate to forestry were presented by the Division.

The "Forest Pest Conditions in California 1960" was published and distributed by the Division. This is the official report of the California Forest Pest Control Action Council. A concerted effort was made by the Council to prepare and publish this report at this early date. Distribution is made to all registered timber operators, council members, and persons and agencies interested in pest conditions.

## TIMBER TAXATION

The Timber Maturity Board provided for in the State Constitution convened in Del Norte County for the second time this year. Young-growth timber on 26 properties containing 918 acres was declared mature for assessment purposes.



## PUBLIC RELATIONS

A number of foresters from the Division attended a hardwoods conference in Berkeley on March 16-17 which was sponsored by the University of California; two Division representatives were on the program. Papers were presented and discussions held on such subjects as the extent of the California hardwood resource, their qualities, and utilization for various uses. The situation in respect to this resource and the interest expressed indicate a promising future for greater utilization. About 100 representatives from private and public organizations were in attendance.

## ENGINEERING

On March 9, Deputy Petersen attended a meeting in the Governor's Office to determine what action State Agencies could take to accelerate their authorized construction programs. Charles Johnson, Chairman of the meeting, and Mr. Cooney, Deputy Director of Public Works, assembled all agency reports. A second meeting of this group was held Friday, March 10, and decisions were made to expedite certain construction projects in depressed areas. A third meeting on March 24 resulted in special consideration being given to the acceptance of the Gift Deed for the Yucca Valley Forest Fire Station site so construction of that station could proceed without delay.

The new State map showing all Division of Forestry facilities has been printed at a scale of 1 to 1,000,000 and distributed to the field for checking. The drafting of the Kings County map has been completed and we expect to have the map in circulation within the next month.

Bids were opened for the Cathay residence and garage. Six bids were received, and the low bid was \$18,800. Construction will commence in April.

On Thursday, March 16, Forestry representatives again met with General Plank of the Civil Defense office concerning the procedures for applying to the Federal Government for assistance in planning for and constructing an emergency operating center at the Monterey Headquarters site. Forestry was presented with a list of the items that we must include in the preliminary application to the Federal Government. Subsequent to the initial application we must submit both diagramatic sketches and plans of the proposed operating center and fallout shelter. The Federal Government will not cooperate on a matching basis for any portion of the fallout shelter in this building, being primarily concerned with the operating center.

On Friday, March 24, a scope review was held with the Division of Architecture, Department of Finance, and the Legislative Analyst's Office. All major capital outlay projects appearing in the Governor's 1961-62 budget were thoroughly reviewed by the Legislative Analyst for recommended design changes. His principal request was that we phase the construction of the various buildings for the Rainbow Camp replacement. (This entire project was one of those considered for speed-up construction by the Governor's Committee.) He further suggested that we utilize the space in the old equipment building to be retained on this site and deduct comparable space in the warehouse of the new warehouse building. The Monterey Headquarters plans were accepted with the recommendations that we utilize wood shingles rather than shakes unless the Union and Contractors' Association would accept State furnished shakes made by inmates. He recommended further reducing the sizes of the administrative offices to 200 sq. ft. or less. He also recommended that the Relics building for Beaches and Parks be postponed until a need can be more fully demonstrated. The Legislative Analyst expressed disapproval of colored aluminum on metal buildings and we were forced to withdraw this proposal in favor of colored steel sheeting or shingles at the Oroville warehouse.



On March 23 Deputy Petersen met with representatives of Mr. Vincent's office and Mr. Sam Fortino who has purchased the mine from which we secure water for Magalia. After much discussion he offered to sell us 200,000 gallons of water per day at \$500 per month even though Forestry is using its own pump. This is an exorbitant figure as far as we are concerned and we are searching for alternate solutions.

Approval was given by the Public Works Board on March 27 for the acquisition of 2 sites. One parcel involves the 77.97 acres required for the Magalia Conservation Camp and Nursery, and the second parcel is the 40 acres of leach field area needed at Crystal Creek Camp.

On March 21, Deputies Metcalf and Petersen called upon Assemblyman Lunardi and Senator Brown in respect to the camp at Bishop. Both the City of Bishop and the County Board of Supervisors have approved the site selected and have so notified the Bureau of Land Management.

On March 24, Assistant Deputy Jacobson and Mr. George Winter of Corrections attended a citizens meeting in Georgetown relative to protests over establishing a camp on the Volcanoville Ridge site. The people present represented by Judge Amy Drysdale and Messrs. Davis and Smith, did not object to the camp program, but insisted that a camp should not be placed in a recreational area. State representatives yielded to this viewpoint and agreed that a camp would not be located in that vicinity.

On March 27 and 28, Mr. Petersen and Mr. Billings from Property Acquisition toured District I facilities, principally to select a site for the Garberville Branch Center. The Thorn site was determined to be inadequate in size, and the so-called Mitchell property which is within half a mile of the Lake Benbow State Park would have violent public opposition. Everyone felt the Woods property was ideal in all respects and would have the best public acceptance. This site will call for a 600 foot bridge for access. Preliminary estimates call for \$285,000 for a single lane bridge or \$400,000 for a standard county highway bridge. The single lane bridge appears to be adequate for the amount of traffic involved.

On March 30, Mr. Raymond and staff met with Walt Dunbar and Fred Engle, Deputy Directors of Corrections, and staffs. The meeting was confined to training at Susanville, Chino, and the organizational relationships between the two agencies. Mr. Burdman also made a presentation on the Increased Correctional Effectiveness program.

On March 29, Mr. Jacobson conferred with Mr. Mace and staff relative to organization of the conservation center training program at Chino. He brought back a preliminary draft of the information outlined to conduct Forestry training orienting inmates toward camp assignment at Chino.

During a recent trip to San Benito County on property acquisition matters, members of the State Forester's staff and Gene Billings of the Department of Finance were treated to an unusual site when the car driven by Ranger Wilcher nearly collided head-on with a large eagle carrying a rabbit in its talons. Ranger Wilcher gave evidence of practicing what he has preached at the defensive driving schools conducted recently in San Benito County, when by skillful maneuvering he managed to avoid the large bird. One wing lightly brushed the car as the eagle dropped his prey and wheeled aloft. The encounter apparently shook up the occupants of the car more than the eagle, for on the return trip it was noted that the eagle had returned and consumed a major portion of the rabbit.





Fred M. Dunow, Deputy State Forester, right; Al Mullen, District Ranger, U. S. Forest Service, center; and Rupert Asplund, U. S. Forest Service, look over the results of a demonstration of the use of "algin gel" in the extinguishment of a debris fire.

#### CENTRAL SIERRA FOREST FIRE CONFERENCE - NORTHERN SECTION

The Seventh Annual Northern Section, Central Sierra Forest Fire Conference ended April 14, 1961, at Bijou. The two-day meeting, attended by 100 men from Federal, State, and local agencies in central California and western Nevada who protect forest and wildland resources of the two states, stressed progress in fire control activities.

Speakers covered progress in fire research, equipment development, and use of manpower. Highlight of the conference was the address at Wednesday night's banquet by Allan K. Jonas, Director of the California Disaster Office. Mr. Jonas expressed deep concern over the natural disaster facing California this summer because of forest fires. He also paid tribute to the efforts of the fire control agencies and men in meeting the challenge of the day in fire fighting.

Participants were given a practical demonstration at the Tahoe Airport of the latest fire equipment developments. Of prime interest to the group was the use of "thick water" in fire fighting. This new fire-fighting tool, a product of kelp or seaweed and called algin, is capable of being used in either ground pumping equipment or aerial tankers. Extensive field application of this development will be conducted throughout California during the 1961 fire season. A demonstration of private industry's progress in fire-fighting equipment was put on by the Michigan-California Lumber Company of Camino, California.



Election of officers was the last order of business on Friday. General chairman, Ralph Bangsberg, Fire Control Officer of the El Dorado National Forest, turned the gavel over to next year's president, William Brownlee, Associate State Forest Ranger, Nevada-Yuba Ranger Unit. Equipment Chairman for next year's conference will be Edwin Gregg, Jr., Tahoe National Forest. William Bell, Assistant Forestry Superintendent, Washington Ridge Youth Conservation Camp, was elected Executive Secretary to serve with the other two officers.

#### PERSONNEL CHANGES

Clifford E. Fago promoted to Assistant Forest Technician, District I Headquarters, Santa Rosa, March 15, 1961.

Orville A. Ingram, Assistant State Forest Ranger, Squaw Valley, Placer County, transferred to Nevada City, Nevada County, March 2, 1961.

Gilbert W. Bell promoted to Assistant Forestry Superintendent, Conservation Camp, Washington Ridge CYA, Nevada County, District III, March 1, 1961.

The following appointments were made in the Sacramento-Administration Office:

Arlene V. Kline, Intermediate Typist Clerk, Forest Fire Prevention Section, March 15, 1961.

William Innes, Jr., Meteorologist II, Fire Control Section, March 29, 1961.

Mr. William Innes, Jr., reported for work on March 29. He was employed by United Air Lines for 15 years as a meteorologist. He has worked in Seattle and Portland for the company and spent most of the last 13 years at the San Francisco Airport office. In June of 1960 he was transferred to Denver. Finding the California climate irresistible, he has now returned to the State to explore an entirely different field of weather. One of only three Meteorologist II's in the State service, Mr. Innes will provide much needed technical advice and coordination of the Division's weather programs. Mrs. Innes and their two children will be joining Bill in Sacramento shortly.

#### EL DORADO RANGER UNIT

George Meredith once wrote, "Things printed can never be stopped; they are like babies baptized, they have a soul from that moment, and go on forever."

#### IN MEMORY OF OLD FC-2

Seasons many ebbed away  
Since first this form saw light of day.  
You served us well - we raise our cups -  
A toast, o' form, as life erupts  
And leaves you, still, unwanted, dead  
As those you counted, lines which said  
That here a foreman, there a cook  
Had passed this way in life's Blue Book  
And now no longer we support  
Our ten-day personnel report.  
Whatever soul it might have had  
We destine it with feelings glad  
To life forever, without guile,  
Discarded in the circ'lar file.

V.E. Cassell, Asst. Ranger-Dispatcher





Deputy George Grogan  
presenting  
25-year Service Pin and  
Citation to State Forest  
Ranger A. Roy Bengard

State Forest Ranger A. Roy Bengard, was honored by fellow Rangers and District Staff members, at a recent ceremony during which he was presented a 25-year service pin and citation. The presentation was made in mid-March during a District-wide Ranger's meeting held in Red Bluff.

Deputy State Forester George Grogan, when presenting the citation, complimented Bengard on his long and faithful service.

During Bengard's long career he served in many locations and capacities, his first service began in 1930 as a Fire Warden and Foreman under Hy Wyman, who was then State Forest Ranger in San Benito County and often spent his summers there and the winters on special assignment in Santa Cruz County and at the Division of Forestry shops near Davis.

On August 23, 1935, Ranger Bengard married Edna Eviglia, who told this inquiring reporter that she and Roy were married at 10:00 o'clock in the morning and at about 2:00 P.M., Roy left for a fire in the vicinity of the New Idra Mine in eastern San Benito County. Enroute to the fire, Roy picked up volunteer firefighting help, and was gone from his bride of four hours for two days. Edna reports that in addition to "losing" her bridegroom, her shoes were tight and her feet hurt.

The Bengards have two daughters, Carol (Mrs. Charles Bell of Sacramento) and Katherine (Mrs. Sidney Nobles of Chico) and are the proud grandparents of three lovely children.

One of the amusing (now, of course) incidents in Roy's career occurred in 1939 while on a fire on Black Mountain. Roy was in his sedan and while driving on the fire his gas tank became punctured by some rocks. A stream of gas traveled right behind the car until it finally caught fire, (possibly from the exhaust)! Roy had to abandon the car and watch it "disappear" amid flames. Along with the loss of the car, Roy suffered the loss of his favorite 22 caliber pistol.

In 1938, Bengard received his State Forest Ranger's appointment and was assigned to Siskiyou Ranger Unit where he remained for eight years; in 1946 he transferred to the Fresno Ranger Unit and in 1952 he transferred to the Lassen-Modoc Ranger Unit. Bengard's latest assignment brought him back to the Siskiyou Ranger Unit in 1958.



CALIFORNIA FORESTRY 25 YEAR CLUB  
(Quarter Century Notes)



State Forest Ranger  
Arthur Moberg

State Forest Ranger Arthur Moberg, well known to most everyone working in the Division of Forestry today is currently working for the Division as Resident Officer in charge of the Davis Warehouse and Supply Depot at Davis, California.

Ranger Moberg was born the fourth child in a family of six children in St. Paul, Minnesota, on April 15, 1901, to Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Moberg who before their marriage emigrated from Sweden to this country in 1884 and settled in Minnesota. Mr. Moberg first worked in various occupations and in 1893 engaged in farming for a few years until the family started to expand and a more steady source of income was indicated. Mr. Moberg then gained employment on the building of one of the more important transcontinental railroads that was under construction in that day -- The Great Northern Railway -- running from Minneapolis, Minnesota, to Seattle, Washington. The contractor on that very well known early day railway project was an equally well known national figure -- Mr. James J. Hill.

Following his employment on the railroad project, the Moberg family relocated from their previous location in Minnesota to North Dakota in 1904, with a subsequent move to Battle Ground, Washington, in 1911 where they settled until coming to Kern County, California, in 1917.

In 1919 they acquired, as a family enterprise, Democrat Hot Springs Resort in the Sequoia National Forest in the Kern River Canyon country 30 miles northeast of Bakersfield. This resort they operated for a number of years.

Art by this time was a young man of 18 years who down through the years, when not in school, was helping his parents with the management of Democrat Hot Springs and other family occupations to help support a large growing family. One of his principal duties was to transport resort patrons from Bakersfield to Democrat Hot Springs. For this purpose, he drove a 1912 White three quarter ton converted truck (stage) which was a typical type of resort conveyance of that era.

Having been born of sturdy industrious parental lineage, and spending his early formative childhood days in three states where logging and lumbering was of prime importance to the economy of our nation following the close of the Civil war in 1865, through 1920, it can be understood how as a natural inclination the Moberg family would ultimately settle in a timbered area in the Sequoia National Forest of California. Young Art Moberg developed an abiding interest in natural resource conservation practices being carried out by the California Division of Forestry and other conservation agencies operating in this State.



It was in 1924 that Art was first selected as Crew Boss for pick-up labor crews on fires in the Kern River Canyon by the U. S. Forest Service, Sequoia National Forest.

On September 1, 1926, he was appointed to the lookout position on Piute Mountain and placed on the regular payroll at \$90.00 per month for which he was obligated to furnish his own horses for transportation. On occasion it would be necessary to leave the lookout to fight any fire that might occur in his protection zone. He was also required to make periodic patrols over the area.

The lookout structure was far from the design as we know them to be today; in fact, all he had was a tall yellow pine tree with a phone installed thereon and a hand alidade to locate the fire. There wasn't even a platform to stand upon not to mention the absence of a table, Osborne fire finder, windows, and roof providing shelter from the elements.

In 1927 Art was assigned the Patrolman's job at \$115.00 per month in the same area. An item of organizational advancement was noted when they permitted him to use his own automobile (1925 Dodge sedan) instead of horses.

It was while working on this assignment that Art made the acquaintance of Kern Unit Ranger Roger V. Wood, Tulare Unit Ranger, C. E. Metcalf, and others working for the California Division of Forestry. It was through these acquaintances and Civil Service accomplishments that Art was given his first appointment with the California Division of Forestry on May 15, 1929, as a Patrolman stationed at Havilah U. S. Ranger Station in Kern County. He was subsequently reassigned in the same position to Bakersfield Headquarters where he worked under the direction of Rangers Roger V. Wood, Jack C. Farley, and Harold P. Bowhay.

Through Civil Service procedure, he was raised from Patrolman on April 1, 1931, and appointed as Ranger in charge of the Tulare Ranger Unit replacing Ranger C. E. Metcalf in the Tulare Unit who was reassigned other duties as Assistant Fire Chief in Kern, Tulare, Fresno, Madera, Mariposa, and San Luis Obispo Counties.

On May 15, 1933, Art was reassigned as Ranger in charge of Mariposa Unit filling the vacancy caused by the resignation of Ranger Van Ness Moore.

On January 1, 1944, he was assigned Ranger in charge of the Madera-Merced Ranger Unit replacing Ranger Charles P. Campbell who was given another Ranger assignment in the Mendocino Ranger Unit.

After staying in the Madera-Merced Ranger Unit until June 1, 1953, Art transferred as Resident Manager of the Division's Davis Warehouse and Supply Depot facility at Davis where he is employed today as the replacement for Ranger H. E. Wyman (retired).

During his long tenure in office, Ranger Moberg, like many other Rangers in the Division, has found time during the winter months each year, especially during the depression period of the 1930's, to serve in extracurricular capacities; such as superintendent of Pinehurst, Fresno Crossing and Coulterville unemployment camps and many other winter-time assignments.

It was also during this same period that Ranger Moberg met, in Los Angeles, Miss Florence Chamberlin who was born in Elmira, New York, and live in Minneapolis, Minnesota for awhile before moving to Los Angeles.



Florence Chamberlin and Arthur Moberg were married in Los Angeles on November 8, 1930. They have one daughter presently living in Hayward with her husband and two sons making Florence and Arthur Moberg the proud grandparents of two robust grandsons.

We know that Mrs. Moberg, like many other young Rangers' wives during the early developmental days of the Division of Forestry, found that she not only had to worry about her young Ranger Husband's health when he was on forest fires, but had the chore of Fire Dispatching from her home, doing part of his office work, recruiting men and supplies that he would need, and many other things to help her husband make his job successful. Taking all into account, the writer believes Mr. and Mrs. Moberg will agree natural resource conservation work in California has been a most interesting and rewarding work.

Ranger and Mrs. Art Moberg are charter members and staunch supporters of the California Forestry Twenty Five Year Club. The writer in speaking for himself and other club members trusts they will find it convenient to be present at many more of our annual dinner meetings.

LETTER TO JACK AMUNDSON FROM RICHARD H. PLAND, DIRECTOR, KEEP CALIFORNIA GREEN, INC.

"I would like to commend you and your organization again for your original and very aggressive efforts in fire prevention. Your program of personal contacts in known trouble spots and approach to the schools should produce results, which are too often lacking in the traditional, well-worn "shot gun" information programs.

"Enclosed are several individual membership applications for Keep California Green, which some of your key personnel may wish to use. Such membership in a state-wide fire prevention organization may serve to increase even further the individual's interest in fire prevention."

KINGS COUNTY HAS GROWING PAINS

Kings County, like the rest of California, has a continual influx of population. The impact of business and residential development underway in this area has brought a demand for greater public services. The County is suffering from growing pains and the Ranger Unit personnel find themselves right in the middle of it.

The administrative workload has increased, but the fire responses have decreased from 51 fires last year at this time to 36. It is hoped the fire occurrence trend, which dropped from a total of 544 in 1959, to 431 in 1960, will continue.

Florence P. Appell, Dispatcher Clerk

NO FIRES, PLEASE!

"No fires will be reported until further notice." Recently this was the unofficial by-word from the Fresno Ranger Unit Headquarters.

Ranger Bill Pennington's office force found efficiency and planning had failed to pay off this time, in maintaining a 1,000 copy supply of blank fire reporting forms. Miss LaVera Berg, Intermediate Stenographer-Clerk, returned empty-handed from a trip to the stockroom for additional desk copies.

Termites had devoured most of the stock, and ruined the rest. (This is a "digestible" form?)

Richard T. Ford, Fire Prevention Officer





Left to right: Carline (Mrs.) Stephens, N. O. Stephens, C. E. Metcalf, G. R. "Casey" Light, Lena (Mrs.) Light. Jimmy Stephens (son of Mr. & Mrs. Stephens)

#### 25 YEAR CERTIFICATE PRESENTATION AT MARIPOSA

Assistant State Forest Rangers G. R. "Casey" Light and N. O. "Steve" Stephens, having passed the quarter century mark with our Division, were presented with their 25-Year Certificates and lapel pins by me Saturday night, March 11.

The presentations were made at a party held in their honor at the Mariposa Veterans of Foreign War Hall. Among their many friends present were people from the Division of Forestry, U. S. Forest Service, State Soil Conservation, Division of Highways, and other public agencies.

Those present were glad to know that Casey and Steve, both of whom have been on the sick list temporarily, were able to attend -- and all our good wishes were extended to them for many more years of service with the Division.

be

Leota, who was not able to/present, sent corsages for Mrs. Light and Mrs. Stephens, since she says that a firefighter's wife should receive some recognition for all of the time she spends alone while her husband is away on fires.

Casey and Steve started with the Division of Forestry in 1933; Casey as a Forest Firefighter in Tuolumne Ranger Unit, and Steve as a Forest Fire Truck Driver in Fresno Ranger Unit.



Casey was promoted to Forest Firefighter Foreman in 1934, assigned to Tuolumne Ranger Unit; the same year he was assigned to the Civilian Conservation Corp program. In May, 1935, Casey became an Assistant Ranger in Mariposa. His work took him into every nook and cranny of the county. In 1957, he was assigned as office manager and dispatcher, where his knowledge of the country and fire control has been a real asset to the Division. Casey and his wife, Lena, live in Mariposa.

Steve, after a start as Forest Fire Truck Driver in 1933, became a Forest Firefighter Foreman the same year in Fresno Ranger Unit. Steve was assigned to the old State Emergency Relief Agency to help with the conservation program. In 1935 he was promoted to Assistant Ranger in Fresno, transferring to Santa Clara Ranger Unit in 1941. Steve moved to Madera Ranger Unit in 1949, and to Kings Ranger Unit in 1955 where he concentrated on structural protection problems. In 1959, he transferred to Mariposa where he lives with his wife, Carline, and son, Jimmy.

C. E. Metcalf, Deputy State Forester

#### PERSONNEL CHANGES - DISTRICT IV

Forest Firefighter Foremen promoted to Forestry Work Project Foremen are: Curtis Hegg and Percy Landon assigned to Murietta; James Sharkey assigned to Mount Bullion; Bob Brewer assigned to Mountain Home; and Harold G. Smith assigned to Mobile - District IV.

Former Forestry Equipment Operator James D. Hurley promoted to Forestry Work Project Foreman at Mountain Home.

New District Appointments are: William Anell, appointed to Forestry Work Project Foreman assigned to the Mobile Camp. Lee Akers and Oren G. Connell appointed Forest Fire Truck Drivers in the Tulare Ranger Unit.

Forest Firefighter Foreman Frank B Lewis, Madera Ranger Unit, is assigned to the Southern California Training Center to assist with the training program for the remainder of the training season.

Florence P. Appell, Dispatcher Clerk

#### ANNUAL MEETING OF 25-YEAR CLUB

The California Forestry 25-Year Club held its third annual dinner meeting at the Fresno Hacienda Motel on Saturday, March 18th. Preceding the meeting an old folks' hour was enjoyed at the home of the Metcalfs'.

Present were 23 members who brought their spouses, four members without their spouses. Guests were: Mr. and Mrs. Harold Bowhay, guest of Honorary member, P. E. Van Pelt, and Mrs. Lucille Wood who was my guest. Table decorations featured camellias, the work being done by lady members of my staff. Woodbridge Metcalf served as master of ceremonies and did his usual good job. Time did not permit as much reminiscing as was anticipated; however, a rouge's gallery will be started and kept up-to-date as new members join our club.

The nominating committee for the ensuing year was Francis Raymond, Chairman, C. G. Strickland, and Charles Campbell. Nominations were:

President, Fred Herbert; Vice president, Miles Young; Secretary-Treasurer, Mildred Morgan; Director for a three-year term, Joe Scherman. All were unanimously



elected.

I am sure everyone had a splendid time. Although the meeting adjourned at 11 P.M., visiting continued for a considerable length of time afterwards. As the years go on I am sure there will be a continued interest in this group, particularly because there are many new eligible members each year.

C. E. Metcalf, Deputy State Forester

"BY HOOK OR CROOK" - Published in the Fresno Bee Newspaper

Ever use the term "by hook or by crook"? If you have, you have been using an old forestry expression. The National Lumber Manufacturers Association give this explanation for the origin of the expression:

In feudal times all forests belonged to the lord of the manor. The peasants were not permitted to cut trees, but had permission to secure for heating and cooking what underbrush, limbs, and twigs they could reach "by hook or by crook", (what they could cut down with a pruning hook or pull down with a shepherd's crook). This served the useful purpose of keeping tree stands clear of underbrush and of superfluous and dead limbs.

Jack C. Hansen  
Associate State Forest Ranger

FORESTRY CREW SLEEPING IN ALLEY

Things are pretty tough when Forestry crews are sleeping in alleys. George Phibbs, Tulare Ranger, appeared before the Woodlake City Council to inquire about two alleys that were to have been abandoned about 15 years ago, but that showed on the records as still existing. The phantom alleys go right through the station barracks.

The dumbfounded council turned to the City Clerk for an answer. The City Clerk produced old records and minute orders showing that formal abandonment action had started in 1945, but after two hearings the matter was never mentioned again. The records also revealed that a street the city knew nothing about also goes through the property. In checking the map, one City Councilman said, "It's right here, and we've been mowing it for years. The street, on the map, goes through a city park."

Phibbs explained the reason for the inquiry is that the Division of Forestry wishes to renew its lease with the Fire District and this could not be done without a clear title.

The City Council was at a loss as to how to get rid of the alleys and street after so much <sup>time</sup> has elapsed. The City Attorney said he would look into the matter, but it is his opinion that the city will have to go through the formal abandonment procedure all over again.

Robert L. Voss  
Associate State Forest Ranger



#### MORE FROM DISTRICT IV

Lester H. Phillips, Forest Firefighter Foreman, transferred from District I to Mariposa Ranger Unit.

Cy Holmes, Associate Ranger transferred to San Bernardino Ranger Unit from Fresno. Neil McBride, formerly Forest Fire Truck Driver, promoted to Forest Firefighter Foreman in the Madera Ranger Unit.

James R. Johnson, newly appointed Forest Fire Truck Driver, is assigned to Madera Ranger Unit.

#### DISTRICT IV PERSONNEL ATTENDING TRAINING CENTERS

Delwin Brandt, Forest Firefighter Foreman from Mariposa, is attending the Foreman Training Course at Central Sierra Training Center March 27 to February 28. Jackson F. Miller, Forestry Work Project Foreman from Mount Bullion Youth Conservation Camp, completed the Foreman Training Course at Central Sierra Training Center. District IV Forest Fire Truck Drivers scheduled to attend the Driver Training Course at the Southern California Training Center are: Arthur R. Taylor, Mariposa; Al Benes, Madera; William V. Lawhon, James J. Lynch, and Paul D. Sageser, Fresno; Lee E. Akers, Delbert C. Combs, and Gary R. Minert, Tulare.

District IV Foremen completing the Foreman Training Course at the Southern California Training Center are: Lemuel B. Green, Mariposa; Delbert E. Burnett and Larry L. Upton, Madera; Lauren Wenzel, Fresno; Gerald Gadbury and Harold C. Smith, Forestry Work Project Foremen from Mountain Home Conservation Camp.

#### KINGS COUNTY

During the month of April the Kings County Forestry and Fire Control Unit is conducting an extensive fire prevention campaign throughout the unincorporated area of Kings County in an effort to cut down the number of structural fires and the losses involved.

Firemen will aid occupants with the inspection of their homes both inside and outside. They will also make appearances in schoolrooms, comment on fire prevention, and assist in fire drills.

The stepped-up training program for Fire Truck Drivers and volunteer groups will continue with pump and salvage operations.

The administrative officers have returned from their assigned training courses and will apply new concepts from their agendas to this unit. They are in agreement as to the many benefits received from the recent In-Training sessions held in Coalinga.

Our annual report has been completed and it is with pride to relate fire losses were 11½% of the property involved, and that the number of actual fires dropped from 491 in 1958 to 450 in 1959 and 382 in 1960. Fires last year this date were 81 -- today, 58. In the face of the building surge and the start of the population increase in this area, credit is due the Kings County fire protection force. Volunteer groups responded to 118 calls.

Florence P. Appell, Dispatcher Clerk



## ALL ACORNS DON'T MIGHTY OAKS GROW - OR THE CASE OF THE PLUGGED WELL

The old adage that, "From little acorns, might oaks grow", is well known. But probably not many know that "little acorns" can foul up good water wells. This was almost the "straw that broke the camel's back".

Five years and two holes had produced sweat, frustration, and unslacked thirst at Santa Margarita Forest Fire Station, but no water in the well.

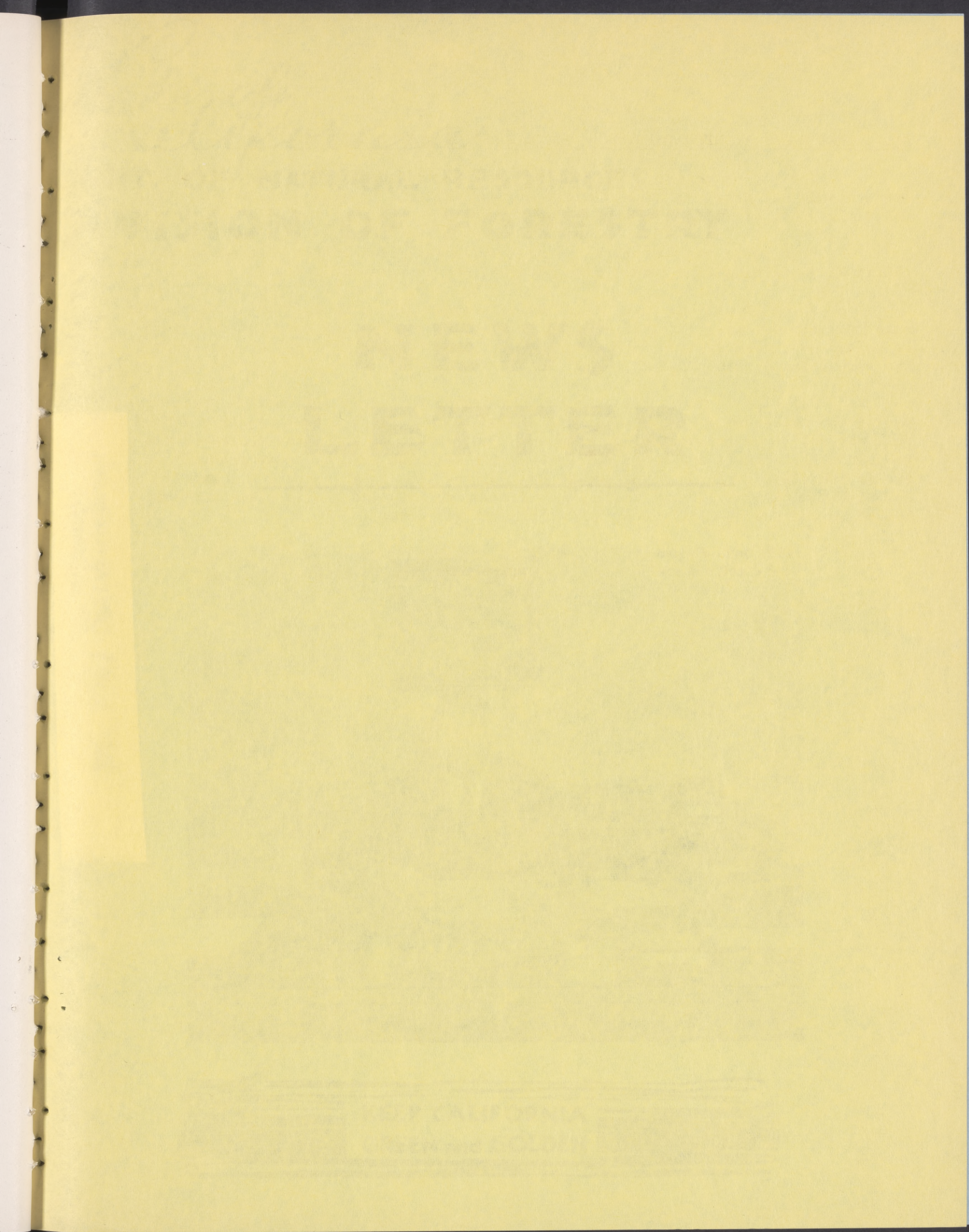
After buying the third hole, which brought the total drilling bill to over nine thousand dollars, our luck changed. Water was found! The pump, power, equipment, and well were eventually put together in proper order, the switch was thrown, the pump started, but no water.

Now this is where the case of the PLUGGED WELL came into being. After removing the necessary pipe and equipment - which meant taking a power wagon and boom to pull the well - an inspection was made and, "Believe it or not", the source of the trouble was - a small ACORN had fallen down the well and when the pump started, it was in the right position to be sucked up into the jet, thus stopping all water. So, with the removal of said acorn, the pipe was reinstalled in the well, the pump hooked up and the power started, and we finally got water.

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